

set forth in full. The present application also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) to the following provisional applications: Application No. 60/160,124, filed October 18, 1999; Application No. 60/161,152, filed October 22, 1999; Application No. 60/162,315, filed October 28, 1999; Application No. 60/163,169, filed November 2, 1999; Application No. 60/163,170, filed November 2, 1999; Application No. 60/163,600 filed November 4, 1999; Application No. 60/164,379, filed November 9, 1999; Application No. 60/164,690; filed November 10, 1999; Application No. 60/166,289, filed November 18, 1999.

Please replace the paragraphs at page 1, line 29 - page 2, line 27, with the following paragraphs:

In one aspect of the present invention, a communications system includes a rate negotiator configured to negotiate a data rate with a first telephony device over a network line, and renegotiate the negotiated data rate with a remote system over a packet based network, the remote system comprising a second telephony device, and wherein the data exchange is configured to exchange data signals between the first telephony device and the remote system at the renegotiated data rate.

In another aspect of the present invention, a method of communications includes negotiating a data rate with a first telephony device over a network line, renegotiating the negotiated data rate with a remote system over a packet based network, the remote system comprising a second telephony device, and exchanging data signals between the first telephony device and the remote system at the renegotiated data rate.

In yet another aspect of the present invention, computer-readable media embodying a program of instructions executable by a computer performs a method of communications, the method including negotiating a data rate with a first telephony device over a network line, renegotiating the negotiated data rate with a remote system over a